

**CLAIMS**

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. An adapter having an integrated ballast and starting arrangement for annular fluorescent lamps having a pin base for connecting the adapter to conventional incandescent lamp sockets, the adapter having a housing for accommodating the  
10 integrated ballast and starting arrangement and a concentric attachment, having a screw or bayonet base, being attached to this housing, the housing having a substantially cuboidal configuration and lying substantially within the space enclosed by  
15 the annular fluorescent lamp, and a holder, which partially encloses the pin base of the fluorescent lamp or the discharge vessel of the fluorescent lamp, being attached to each of the two ends of the housing, the first holder also containing a  
20 socket for accommodating and making electrical contact with the pin base and the second holder having a sliding apparatus for locking the annular fluorescent lamp.
  
- 25 2. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing of the adapter is assembled from a lower part, an upper part and a sliding part.
  
3. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
30 ballast and starting arrangement is mounted on a board.
  
4. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrical clamping contacts of the pin base  
35 socket are mounted on a board which is electrically connected to the electrical

connections of the board of the ballast and starting arrangement.

5. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrical clamping contacts of the pin base socket are mounted on the board of the ballast and starting arrangement.
10. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the holder with the pin base socket comprises in each case at least one extension, in the form of a hook, of the lower part and at least one extension, in the form of a hook, of the upper part of the housing, which together enclose the fluorescent lamp in the form of a semicircle.
15. The adapter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the holder with the sliding apparatus comprises at least one extension, in the form of a hook, of the lower part of the housing, on which the fluorescent lamp rests, as well as the sliding part, the sliding part having at least one extension, in the form of a hook, for holding the lamp vessel, resting on the upper part of the housing and being capable of being displaced in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the housing for the purpose of locking the lamp.
20. The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the sliding part has a U-shaped cross section having in each case one rib which extends in the longitudinal direction of the base housing, close to the free ends of the two flanks, the rib engaging in a corresponding groove on the inside of the side walls of the base lower part.
25. The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the sliding part has a U-shaped cross section having in each case one rib which extends in the longitudinal direction of the base housing, close to the free ends of the two flanks, the rib engaging in a corresponding groove on the inside of the side walls of the base lower part.
30. The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the sliding part has a U-shaped cross section having in each case one rib which extends in the longitudinal direction of the base housing, close to the free ends of the two flanks, the rib engaging in a corresponding groove on the inside of the side walls of the base lower part.
35. The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the sliding part has a U-shaped cross section having in each case one rib which extends in the longitudinal direction of the base housing, close to the free ends of the two flanks, the rib engaging in a corresponding groove on the inside of the side walls of the base lower part.

9. The adapter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the sliding part has, on the two flanks, a locking part in the form of a rectangular section which is cut out of the flank wall and is fixedly connected  
5 to the flank wall only on the side remote from the base lower part.
10. The adapter as claimed in claim 9, wherein the locking part has projections, in the form of saw teeth, on the outside, close to the edge facing the base lower part, which projections, when the adapter is assembled, engage in corresponding projections, in the form of saw teeth, on the inside of the side walls of the base lower part.  
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